

## Department of Justice

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

## TWO MEN ADMIT TO FEDERAL CHILD PORNOGRAPHY OFFENSES

Syracuse, New York —United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian announced the guilty pleas of two local men on federal child pornography charges.

MICHAEL DOLSON, age 48, of North Syracuse, New York entered pleas of guilty before United States District Judge Hon. Norman A. Mordue, to the offenses of transporting, receiving, and possessing child pornography. As a part of DOLSON's plea, he admitted that using the screenname "mommyalicia1201" he portrayed himself to be a woman with a three year old daughter whom she abused, and that using this persona transmitted child pornography to an undercover New York State Police Investigator on five separate occasions before his arrest in October, 2010. DOLSON also admitted to obtaining child pornography over the Internet for approximately three years, and saving that pornography to several pieces of electronic media that was seized from his home pursuant to a search warrant executed in October, 2010. DOLSON admitted that he possessed, on these items of media, over 1,600 images and over 950 video files depicting children engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

DOLSON's sentencing is scheduled for May 31, 2012 before Hon. Norman A. Mordue. For his convictions on the transportation and receipt of child pornography he faces mandatory minimum sentences of 5 years, and maximum sentences of 20 years imprisonment. For his possession of child pornography, DOLSON faces a maximum sentence of 10 years. In addition, DOLSON will be required to serve a term of supervised release of no less than 5 years, and up to life, and will have to register as a sex offender.

DOLSON'S arrest is the result of an investigation by the New York State Police, with the assistance of the Village of North Syracuse Police Department and the United States Secret Service.

Also today before United States District Judge Hon. Norman A. Mordue, **LEONARD ALLEN**, age 45, of Fulton, New York, entered guilty pleas to the offenses of transporting, receiving, and possessing child pornography. In his plea, ALLEN admitted that he transmitted child pornography to an undercover police officer in Keene, New Hampshire via the Internet, that he received child pornography by use of the Internet, and that he possessed image and video files depicting children engaged in sexually explicit conduct. Of the images and video recovered from ALLEN's electronic media by the Oswego County Sheriff's Office, 474 images and 11 videos were

identified by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children as depicting actual children previously identified by law enforcement officials in numerous different investigations world-wide.

As ALLEN was previously-convicted of a sex offense involving a minor, he faces the following enhanced penalties: as to the transportation and receipt charges, ALLEN faces mandatory minimum sentences of 15 years, and maximum sentences of 40 years; as to his possession of child pornography, ALLEN faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years, an maximum sentence of 20 years. In addition, ALLEN will be required to serve a term of supervised release of no less than 5 years, and up to life, and will have to register as a sex offender. His sentencing is also scheduled before Hon. Norman A. Mordue on May 31, 2012.

ALLEN'S arrest is the result of an investigation by the Oswego County Sheriff's Office, the Keene, New Hampshire Police Department, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Both DOLSON and ALLEN are being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lisa Fletcher, who can be reached at 448-0672. The prosecution by the United States Attorney's Office is part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit <a href="https://www.projectsafechildhood.gov">www.projectsafechildhood.gov</a>.